two. The Member, therefore, prayed that the six western *pakuthies* mentioned above might be separated from the Peermade taluk and formed into a new taluk with Kanjirapalli as its head-quarters. The proposal would not result in any additional expenditure to Government, as, with the formation of a new taluk and the appointment of a Tahsildar with first class Magisterial powers, the First Class Magistrate's Court at Kanjirapalli and the Second Class Magistrate's Court at Mundakayam could be abolished. There was a fall in the file of the latter court, there being only 235 cases in 1094 as against 269 in 1092. Further, the cases related mainly to breaches of contracts and were more or less of a civil nature which required only summary disposal. If the accused admitted the offence, no witnesses had to be examined. The remaining cases mostly related to Forest and Excise offences. The total cost of establishment of the two Magistrate's courts mentioned above was Rs. 6,144 per annum, while that of the newly formed Pathanamthitta taluk was only Rs. 4,860 per annum. It was urged that the Kanjirapalli Munsiff's Court should be retained, as there was work enough for a full-time Munsiff. Further, the Poonjat *pakuthi* also, now under the jurisdiction of the Meenachil Munsiff's Court, might, with advantage to the people of that *pakuthi*, be transferred to that of the Kanjirapalli Munsiff's Court and its transfer would help the abolition of the Additional Munsiff's Court at Meenachil.

Dewan.—How far is Kanjirapalli from Poonjar?

Member.—Ten miles at the most.

As the proposal was profitable to Government and advantageous and convenient to the people of the six western *pakuthies*, the Member requested that it might be given effect to immediately.

Dewan's reply.—Government are convinced of the necessity for partitioning the Peermade taluk into two. The question will be considered.

17. Desirability of shifting the site acquired for the Mundakayam market to a spot within the town of Mundakayam.

Mr. J. R. Vincent (Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association) represented that the site already selected for the Mundakayam market was unsuitable, as it was situated right outside the town and about 2 miles away from it. The approach to it was either by a road two miles long or through a big river which was impassable during the monsoon. He requested that the market might be shifted to a much more desirable place and one within the precincts of the town itself, and suggested two sites suitable for the purpose.

Dewan.—Has no work been done on the site selected? I find that an estimate has been sanctioned.

The Member, continuing, said that nothing had been done. He pointed out that one of the two sites suggested was mostly an uncultivated and uninhabited piece of flat ground, situated in the heart of the town and with three approach roads which were cartable. All that had to be done by the P. W. D. was to fill in with earth the lower portion of the site. The land for the site proposed by him could be easily acquired on payment of compensation of about Rs. 1,500. That site was objected to on two grounds, *viz.*, that it was not large enough and that Government had sanctioned the sum for the site already selected. As to the first objection, the Member argued that the Trivandrum Market site, which was only half an acre in extent, was not quite as large as the site proposed and that an area of one and a half acres should be quite sufficient. As regards the second objection, he observed that the sum sanctioned would be sufficient except in regard to land acquisition. If the land could not be purchased cheaply, arrangements might be made for leases being taken from the present lessors and the annual rental to be paid could be easily raised in the way of fees for using the market. The Government

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should not be a loser any way. With regard to sanitation, there was some objection, but it could be removed by the construction of drains.

Dewan.—Is it a level ground or a hill side ?

Member.—Mostly level ground.

As it was the unanimous wish of the people of Mundakayam to have the market on the site proposed by him and as it was convenient to them and not in any way detrimental to Government, the Member submitted that Government might see their way to grant their request.

Dewan's reply.—The representation will be duly considered.

18. Need for the printing and publishing, by Government for sale to the public, of books containing original plans, divide plans and important particulars comprised in the *chittas*.

Mr. Varkki John (Member, Vaikom taluk) represented that, among the records relating to lands, the Survey and Settlement records were the most important and that the Settlement records were mainly based on the Survey records. Of the Survey records the most essential were the original plans, or the survey plans prepared by surveyors at the time of the actual survey of the lands prior to the Revenue Settlement. Those plans would show the side, off-set and linear measurements, were more than 30 years old and were preserved in the Taluk cutcherries. If any of them were lost, torn or otherwise destroyed, there was no possibility of replacing it. Further, the divide plans, next in importance to the original plan, were being frequently handled by officers in connection with *poramboke* and *pokkuvaravu* cases and in re-survey, and the chances of their becoming torn or being rendered useless were very great. Such records were strong weapons in the hands of mischievous revenue subordinates who could bring any registry-holder to trouble by starting proceedings under the Land Conservancy Regulation. The insertion of survey numbers of lands was always insisted on in documents and plaints and without the help of *pattas* or *chittas* it would not be possible to know the correct survey number of a piece of land. Copies of original plans would not be granted to persons other than the registry-holders except under special circumstances. The litho-plans, copies of which could be easily obtained, did not furnish the necessary information. It was pointed out that, in British India, a plan of the land was invariably granted to the *pattadar* along with the *patta* and that, in the Cochin State also, such plans were printed and were available for sale. The Member, therefore, suggested that a consolidated plan embodying the original and divide plans, with important particulars contained in the *chittas* and *pattas*, might be printed and published by Government for sale to the public for a moderate price.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

(2) FOREST.

19. Defects of forest administration and certain suggestions for remedying the same.

Mr. E. Narayanan Unnithan (Member, Kartigapalli taluk) observed that about one-third of the area of the State consisted of reserved forests and reserved lands which were a valuable asset to the State. Government had already resolved not to go in for further reservation. From the final report on the operations of the Revenue Settlement Department in the State, it would be seen that about 2,669 square miles still remained unsurveyed. The total area of the Reserved Forests till the close of 1093 was 2,383 square miles. No further extension of the area of Reserved Forests was thus necessary. He next referred to the Forest revenue which increased from Rs. 12,92,802 in 1089 to Rs. 15,15,293 in 1093. In his opinion the administration of the forests of the State during the 5 years from 1089 to 1093 really tended to bring about substantial loss to Government and could not be said to have ended in profit as it was reported to be. The expenditure of the department was

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